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BROAD HORIZONS

Schools are finding innovative ways of educating the next generation that go beyond traditional academia By Sophia Charalambous



SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE

EIFA International School was founded by teacher Sabine Dehon and lawyer Isabelle Faulkner after they met in 2007 and Isabelle was looking for a bilingual independent school.

ElFA provides an English-French bilingual education and is the only school in the UK to teach all core subjects in both languages, from nursery to Year 13. Research has shown that only when lessons are taught fully in two languages do children become fully bilingual. This is the approach adopted at EIFA. This way of teaching has cognitive advantages – such as mental flexibility, conceptual mobility and greater abstract reasoning. Cultural advantages include the experience of two linguistic worlds, higher selfesteem and greater tolerance and understanding. With a nursery, junior and senior school, children can enjoy the benefits of a dual-language curriculum their entire time in education. *36 Portland Place*

TIP THE SCALES

TIPS Week (Thinking Innovatively and Problem Solving) was introduced at Francis Holland School five years ago, and has been a success story for the school ever since. Academic results of the students have improved as a result of the project, which takes out three days of the week dedicated to learning about other subjects such as architecture and film, which students may want to study at university. There are also workshops such as crochet, latin dancing, jewellery-making and podcasting - just some of the skills that might inspire a career in the future.

TIPS Week is something Academic deputy head Rob Cawley is proud of: "We've got to provide an education for the real world. There is so much more than the narrow band of intelligence - there are multiple intelligences - as we need our students to flourish in all aspects of their life. After the first TIPS Week we actually saw an improvement in exam results. Academic performance flows in the slipstream of the wider educational system. 39 Graham Terrace